

Water Conservation Tips for Industry & Commercial Facilities

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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Process

- ☐ Know where your water goes. Conserve and protect water by minimizing waste in wastewater. Do not dispose of hazardous waste down a city sewer system or storm drain.
- Reuse water. Use reclaimed water from one application in a different process. Uses for reused water include other industrial uses, landscape irrigation, agricultural irrigation, heating or cooling, aesthetic uses such as fountains or fire protection.
- □ Water recycling. Reuse water for the same application. The water may require treatment before it can be reused. Many processes can be modified to closed loop recycling systems.
- □ Cooling water recirculation. Many industries use water to cool heat-generating equipment or to condense gases. Recycling water with a recirculating cooling system can greatly reduce water use. Many industries report significant savings through water conservation.
- □ Dry cleaning methods. When possible avoid using water to clean spills or hose down facility floors, sidewalks or parking lots. Clean oil/grease with clay absorbents; clean spills with a mop or other absorbent material.
- ☐ Monitor your water system for leaks. A leaky hose, faucet, or pipe can divert water from your system and cost your business money.

Landscaping

- □ Plant native, less water intensive grasses and plants outside in any lawn areas to reduce the need for irrigation water. Visit your local garden store to find out how.
- □ Water your lawn area at night, when it's cool and evaporation is minimized.
- ☐ Make sure your sprinkler system waters the lawn areas only-not the sidewalk or parking lot.
- Avoid over fertilizing lawn areas. Only a limited amount of fertilizer can be used by plants.
 Unused fertilizer runs into our surface and ground waters, elevating nutrients to harmful levels.

Plumbing

☐ Install low-flow toilets, low-flow showerheads, and faucets with aerators.